

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [0001] as follows:

- [0001] The present invention relates to methods of preparing and using clean well treating fluids, i.e., fluids substantially devoid of insoluble gelling agent residue, and compositions.

Please amend paragraphs [0004] and [0005] as follows:

- [0004] A problem with most of the viscous gelled aqueous treating fluids used heretofore is that when the gelling agents are combined with aqueous fluids and are hydrated, the soluble portions of the gelling agents are dissolved in the aqueous fluids whereby the viscosities of the fluids are increased. The insoluble portions of the gelling agents (referred to herein as residue) such as proteins, cellulose and fibers remain in the aqueous fluids and enter the porosities of the subterranean zones being treated as well as gravel packs and proppant packs in the zones whereby the producing capabilities of the zones are impaired. Thus, there are needs for improved methods of preparing and using well treating fluids and compositions which are substantially devoid of water insoluble gelling agent residue.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

- [0005] The present invention provides methods of preparing and using gelled well treating fluids substantially devoid of water insoluble gelling agent residue and well treating fluid compositions which meet the needs described above and overcome the deficiencies of the prior art.

Please insert the following paragraphs and section title after paragraph [0005]:

- [0005.1] In one embodiment, the present invention provides a method of treating a subterranean zone penetrated by a well bore comprising the steps of providing a viscous gelled treating fluid substantially devoid of a water insoluble gelling agent residue comprising water, a hydrated gelling agent and; and introducing said viscous gelled treating fluid into said subterranean zone.
- [0005.2] In another embodiment, the present invention provides a viscous gelled treating fluid composition comprising water, a hydrated gelling agent, and a base, wherein said

viscous gelled treating fluid composition is substantially devoid of a of a water insoluble gelling agent residue.

[0005.3] The objects, features and advantages of the present invention will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art upon a reading of the description of the preferred embodiments which follows.

DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

[0005.4] The present invention provides methods of preparing and using gelled well treating fluids substantially devoid of water insoluble gelling agent residue and well treating fluid compositions which meet the needs described above and overcome the deficiencies of the prior art.

Please amend paragraphs [0007] and [0008] as follows:

[0007] ~~A method of treating a subterranean zone penetrated by a well bore in accordance with this invention comprises the following steps. A viscous gelled treating fluid devoid of insoluble gelling agent residue is prepared or provided comprising water, a hydrated gelling agent and the water insoluble residue therefrom, a base for raising the pH of the water so that the water insoluble residue is dissolved therein, and additional water to then lower the amount of the gelling agent in the treating fluid relative to the amount of water therein and to lower the pH thereof. Thereafter, the viscous gelled treating fluid devoid of insoluble gelling agent residue is introduced into the subterranean zone.~~

[0008] ~~A viscous gelled treating fluid composition devoid of insoluble gelling agent residue of this invention is comprised of the following components: water, a hydrated gelling agent and the water insoluble residue therefrom, a base for raising the pH of the water so that the water insoluble residue is dissolved therein, and additional water to lower the amount of the gelling agent in the treating fluid relative to the amount of water therein and to lower the pH thereof.~~

Please amend paragraphs [0011] and [0012] as follows:

[0011] Examples of bases that can be utilized to raise the pH of the water and to at least partially dissolve the water insoluble residue in accordance with this invention include, but are not limited to, sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide ammonium hydroxide and calcium hydroxide.

[0012] As will now be understood, the well treating fluid compositions of this invention have reduced levels of water insoluble gelling agent residue. As a result, when a subterranean zone is treated using the treating fluid compositions, the producing capabilities of the subterranean zones are not impaired.

Please amend paragraph [0019] as follows:

[0019] Another embodiment of this invention for treating a subterranean zone penetrated by a well bore comprises of preparing or providing a viscous gelled treating fluid comprising water, a hydrated gelling agent and the water insoluble residue therefrom, a base for raising the pH of the water so that the water insoluble residue is at least partially dissolved therein, and thereafter adding additional water to lower the amount of the gelling agent in the treating fluid relative to the amount of water therein and to lower the pH thereof; and introducing the viscous gelled well treating fluid substantially devoid of water insoluble gelling agent residue into the subterranean zone.

Please amend the Abstract of the Disclosure as follows:

[0025] The present invention provides methods of preparing and using viscous gelled well treating fluids substantially devoid of water insoluble gelling agent residue and compositions. A viscous gelled treating fluid composition substantially devoid of water insoluble gelling agent residue basically comprises water, a hydrated gelling agent and ~~the water insoluble residue therefrom~~, a base, wherein said viscous gelled treating fluid composition is substantially devoid of a water insoluble gelling agent residue, ~~for raising the pH of the water so that the water insoluble residue is dissolved therein, and additional water to lower the amount of the gelling agent in the treating fluid relative to the amount of water therein and to lower the pH thereof.~~